

La Chartreuse A Cahuzac See & Do Guide

V4. July 2026



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Introduction

We have been coming to this part of the world for over a decade and have found plenty to see, do, eat and drink! Obviously, things change and peoples' tastes vary, but here are some recommendations based on our experiences. If you have any thoughts after visiting any of our suggestions, or have some of your own, please do let us know so that we can share them with other guests – and enjoy them ourselves!

Have a fabulous stay!

Bill & Jackie

Eat

L'Estanquet (Larressingle) 09 83 95 20 23

At less than 800 metres from our door, this is very much recommended as “our local”. Cuisine includes Gascon, pizzas, and a little Mediterranean influence.

Their version of Pousse Rapiere is pretty special!

L'Estelada (Larressingle) 05 62 28 96 89

New in 2026, this creperie has opened within the castle walls and is run by a group of young locals. A fabulous spot for a lighter lunch or dinner.

L'Auberge (Larressingle) 05 62 28 29 67

Just the other side of the village, but still very much walking distance, this is a reliable restaurant for refined local Gascon fare. Preference is given to hotel guests, so worth calling in advance.

Le Glacier (Larressingle)

Nestled between the castle ruins and the bookshop, there have been claims that they serve the best ice cream in the world. You'll have to be the judge of that, but we certainly recommend that you try it. Cash only!

Food Trucks (Larressingle)

Once or twice each summer a variety of different food trucks park up for the evening in the village, a band strikes up, and the community mingles on shared long tables to enjoy dining together. There is a similar event in Condom, but we think the one here is not to be missed.

Le Sarment (Condom) 05 62 68 47 82

Possibly not much to look at, on the roadside as you enter the Bouquerie district, but an ever reliable friendly restaurant with better opening hours than most

L'Origan (Condom) 05 62 68 24 84

A busy and bustling restaurant where people watching is very much on the agenda. Serving a fine selection of Gascon dishes and excellent pizzas, this is a fabulous stop after an Armagnac tasting at Bhakta.

Citrus (Condom) 05 62 28 01 16

If you're celebrating a special event, then this is the restaurant for you. A set menu, but beautifully cooked, in simply elegant surroundings

Le Moulin du Petit Gascon (Condom) 05 81 68 18 53

A lovely quiet restaurant situating on a lockside next to the Baisse river. Sophisticated and well presented dishes from a limited menu of fresh produce in peaceful surroundings.

Domaine Pouypardin (Condom) 06 73 67 31 22

Primarily our favourite vineyard (see below) but also do occasional dining evenings, which are well worth attending. Eating good honest local food and drinking superb wine amongst the vines as the sun goes down really is the essence of a Gascon holiday!

Condom Food Market (Condom Cathedral)

In and around the cathedral, on Tuesday nights in the summer, several food stands set up and the community eats together on long shared tables. Bandas bands are usually there to create their own

eccentric atmosphere. Not to be confused with the Condom Food Trucks evenings, we thoroughly recommend these events.

Bellevue (Lectoure) 05 62 68 80 06

Some distance away, but if you're touring the area you won't want to miss Lectoure and this lovely local restaurant with stunning views. Book in advance for the best table!

Drink

“The Floc Shop” (Larressingle)

Situated in a little cabin directly outside the castle, this is the perfect place to try and buy both Floc or Armagnac from a local supplier.

Ferme Tollet (A Cahuzac) 06 87 36 04 34

If you look out of the Vignes or Montagnes windows you'll see Tollet's vines down on the left hand side.

Organised tastings (usually in French, but English is sometimes possible) of their organic Armagnac, Gascon aperatif and other related produce can be arranged.

We recommend that you keep the rest of the afternoon free!!!

Bhakta Armagnac (Condom)

In the centre of the town is the former Dupeyron Armagnac dealership, with vintages dating back to the 19th century. Now owned by Bhakta, they do fabulous educational tours and tastings in French or English.

Please speak to us directly in order to organise a customised tour.

Domaine Pouypardin (Condom) 06 73 67 31 22

When it comes to buying red wine, this is very much our favourite vineyard. With just eight hectares of vines they also produce a very good sparkling, solid roses and several whites. Tastings can be organised, but will always be in French.

Domaine de Pellehaut (Montreal) 05 62 29 48 79

One of the larger local vineyards, but they do a good range of wines that are stocked across local restaurants. Tastings can be arranged.

Chateau Arton (Lectoure) 05 62 6 84 33

Particularly well known for their red, rose and Armagnac, this is a beautiful vineyard which is also well set up to do multi-lingual tastings.

Visit

Larressingle (1km)

At less than 800 metres from our door, this is one of “Les Plus Beaux Villages de France”. The title is highly respected, but we’re fortunate enough to have no less than three villages of this sort within close proximity. The fortified village and chapel are the historic parts to see, whilst there is a visitor centre, eclectic gift shop, bookshop, restaurant and ice cream vendor (cash only!) to pop into within the walls. Outside the walls are two further restaurants, a Floc & Armagnac shop and the Medieval warfare experience where you really can while away a couple of hours.

Pont d’Artigues (1km)

Just down the hill from the house lies the historic, but rather modest, UNESCO heritage bridge. The significance is its role as a crossing point of the river Osse for the pilgrims on the St James Way (GR65) which starts in Geneva and ultimately joins footpaths leading to Santiago de Compostela in Spain.

Fources (8.5km)

The second of the “Plus Beaux Villages de France”, you approach over a bridge over the little river next to the castle hotel. The centre itself is extremely unusual as it is a circular bastide which, with its tree shaded interior, is a lovely place to spend some time. Around the perimeter are a number of clothes, food, antique and painting shops. There are also two café / restaurants to refresh yourself.

Montreal (8.6 km)

The third of the “Plus Beaux Villages de France” this is set-up in the more familiar square grid system. As you drive into the picturesque central square you’ll probably wonder whether you can squeeze your car through. Once there you can while away some time at the church, one of the nice café bars around the square, or at one of the village’s restaurants.

La Romieu (16km)

A very historic village which, like us, sits on the GR65 long distance pilgrimage route “The Way of St James”. The Collegiate Church of Saint Pierre dominates, whilst there are also a number of shops, restaurants and

cafes under the covered archways around the main square. A couple of art galleries are also hidden in the smaller side roads. There is also a quirky story linking the village to cats, which means several of them can be seen hidden in the architecture.

Les Jardins de Coursiana (16km) 05 62 68 22 80

Just on the edge of La Romieu, these beautiful gardens are a fine example of the magnificent range of plants that can be grown in this region. The tour will probably take an hour or so, but you probably won't want to leave before sampling some of their homemade drinks and produce.

Condom (6km)

A large, but peaceful town, built around the bridges crossing the river Baise. The central square is dominated by the magnificent cathedral, and a photo next to the statue of the Three Musketeers (D'Artagnan was a local) is absolutely compulsory. The shopping in the centre is okay, along with a couple of weekly markets but, like most towns, most shopping is done at the 3 supermarkets (Intermarche, Carrefour and Lidl) on the periphery. There are plenty of

restaurants, bars, bakeries and cafes to refresh yourself in.

Lectoure (26km)

If you're in this area, then Lectoure is definitely worth the trip over to look round, particularly on a Friday when the morning market is very well attended. The town sits high on a promontory with fabulous views on three sides and is also on the GR65 pilgrimage route, so boasts an impressive cathedral. There is a natural spa at the other end of the high street, just before a fascinating antiques market with many interesting items, but very few bargains!

Play

Water Park (Gondrin) 05 62 29 12 43

In the middle of this hilly village, also well known for its apple croustade dessert, is a large waterpark with waterslides, wave machines, and separate depth levels for different ages & abilities. All outside, this is surrounded by grassy areas to place your towel and dry out. There is also a café and restaurant on-site.

Tennis (Condom & Valence Sur Baise) www.tenup.fft.fr

There are tennis clubs at both of these locations and court bookings can be made online.

Golf (Eauze & Auch) 05 62 09 80 84 / 05 62 61 10 11

There are golf courses nearby both of these large towns, with the one at Eauze having a particularly good reputation.

Canoeing (Beaucaire) 05 62 68 15 95

We have tried out the canoeing here and it's a great way to spend an afternoon, but make sure you take a set of dry clothes. Some years you can be guided all the way down to Valence-sur-Baise, but in other years you

will be self-guided for an hour or two. The river is gentle, so easy going and there are a variety of canoe types to choose from.

River Cruises (Condom & Lavardac) 05 62 28 46 46 /
06 09 33 15 96

The boat cruise in Condom can be done as a tour with lunch, albeit it is worth noting that the boat doesn't go particularly far. We have not yet been on the trips for Lavardac ourselves, but have heard good things.

Look & Listen

Condom Cathedral Recitals*

On Tuesday evenings in July & August from 6pm, before the food markets, there are a series of organ recitals, vocal soloists and musicians

Opera*

Orpheus in the Underworld will be performed by Compagnie des Chants de Garonne at Condom Cloisters on 8th August from 8.30pm

D'Artagnan Exhibition (Lavardens)*

A mixed media exhibition focused on Gascony's favourite son. Combining historical facts, immersive experiences and elements of popular culture.

Marciac Jazz Festival www.lastrada-marciac.fr

The annual jazz festival is one of the largest musical events in the region and runs throughout late July featuring musicians from around the world

Bandas (Condom) festivaldebandas.fr

For one weekend a year in May the centre of Condom is closed off and becomes a riotous festival of marching bands, food and revelry. We think it's a lot of fun, but best approached somewhat ironically!

Rugby www.monclubhouse.ffr.fr

You are staying right in the heartland of French rugby, where the likes of Alldrit, Dupont and Jelonch all grew up. The season lasts surprisingly long and tickets are relatively easy to obtain. Local clubs to go and watch are; Top 14 – Toulouse & Pau, Pro D2 – Agen & Montauban, Nationale 2 – Auch & Fleurance, Regionale 2 – Condom & Montreal

*For a more comprehensive and up-to-date overview of all events in the region, please visit

<https://www.tourisme-gers.com/en/agenda/>